

## Message Text

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45

ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 EUR-12

ACDA-05 /070 W

----- 073718

R 161030Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3074

INFO DIA

CINCUSNAVEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1026

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, SO, UR

SUBJECT: SOVIET VESSELS AT MOGADISCIO

REF: CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON 131248Z JUL 75

1. THREE SOVIET VESSELS ARRIVED MOGADISCIO JULY 12 AND ARE STILL IN PORT. WEATHER AND OBSERVATION ANGLE HAVE PREVENTED US FROM MAKING EARLIER IDENTIFICATION BUT FOLLOWING ARE OUR CONCLUSIONS TO DATE.

2. KANIN DDG APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THREE SHIPS BUT ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO ALTER BOW MARKING. BOW CLEARLY CARRIES NUMBERS 561 AND ATTEMPT HAS BEEN MADE TO ALTER LAST DIGIT TO B OR 56B. BUT IT IS APPARANT FROM TELESCOPE READING THAT ORIGINAL NUMBER IS 561. IT HAS HELICOPTER PAD ON STERN AND CARRIES ADMIRAL-TYPE LAUNCH.

3. SMALL VESSEL ACCOMPANYING DDG 561 APPEARS TO BE DESTROYER ESCORT BUT WE UNSUCCESSFUL IN READING ITS IDENTITY. IT IS HOWEVER SOVIET VESSEL.

4. LARGER VESSEL PRESENTS PUZZLE TO US. IT IS EXTREMELY LARGE, APPEARS TO BE QUITE NEW, AND MOST CLOSELY RESEMBLES 3 LAMA CLASS SUPPORT VESSEL IN JANES FIGHTING SHIPS (1971-72) EXCEPT THAT  
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MIDSHIP CONFIGURATION IS LOWER THAN 3 LAMA CLASS; SUPERSTRUCTURE SET

WELL TO STERN. IT HAS BATTERY FIVE-INCH GUNS FORWARD. ON BOW WE  
READ CYRILLIC LETTERS FORMING TWO WORDS: BAANMHP KOAEYUKHA BUT THIS  
READING QUESTIONABLE OWING TO DISTANCE OF SHIP FROM OUR OBSERVATION  
SITE. WE CANNOT SEE SOVIET FLAG.

5. SOVIET SAILORS HAVE BEEN EVIDENT IN MOGADISCIO FOR SEVERAL DAYS.  
NO RPT NO ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE IN LOCAL MEDIA REGARDING  
FLOTILLA'S ARRIVAL OR ITS IDENTITY.

6. SOVIET CHARGE HAS BRUSHED ASIDE QUESTIONS ABOUT SOVIET SHIPS AND  
DENIED TO ONE DIPLOMAT THAT RUSSIAN ADMIRAL WAS ABOARD ANY OF  
VESSELS.

7. IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SPECULATE ABOUT RELATIONSHIP OF  
FLOTILLA'S APPEARANCE TO CONGRESSIONAL TOURS.  
HAMRICK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, MILITARY VISITS, NAVAL SHIPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 JUL 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MartinML  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D750245-0903  
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**Office:** ACTION INR  
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